



# AIRMAIL BULLETIN

INFORMATION DIVISION  
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**Rail-Strike Averted:** Threat of a nation-wide strike by 125,000 railway workers was removed Saturday when the railways and their employees' unions reached agreement on the question of paid vacations.

A brief statement issued jointly on behalf of the major railway lines and the brotherhoods disclosed that recommendations made by a conciliation board last June, rejected then by the companies but accepted by the unions, were the basis for the agreement.

The statement said:

"The question of increased vacations with pay for railway employees has been settled on the basis outlined by the report of the Board of Conciliation...

"Details of the application to the various classes of employees will be a matter of negotiation between the respective organizations and the railways."

It was signed by F.H. Hall, chairman of the negotiating committee for 17 unions, and by William Manson, vice-president of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and N.B. Walton, Executive Vice-President of Canadian National Railways.

The announcement followed a three-hour meeting in the CNR board room, the third conference between the parties since the union announced at the beginning of last week that November 3 had been set as a strike date unless agreement was reached.

Under the agreement, employees with one year's service will receive six paid holidays a year; employees with three years will receive nine days, and employees with five years will receive 12.

The railways had contended such a scheme would cost them \$5,000,000 a year and, while approving the plan in principle, had rejected it because of the cost. (CP)

**Freight Rates Findings:** Two members of the Board of Transport Commissioners have written minority judgments dissenting with the Board's majority decision rejecting an attempt by the railways to raise their competitive freight rates by 30 percent immediately.

The judgments made public Saturday showed that four commissioners voted for rejection, which was announced a week ago, and two held that the railways should be allowed to hoist the competitive tariffs.

Seven provinces engaged in battling the carriers' main application for several months lodged objections to the latest railroad action.

The majority decision upholding the provinces, it was shown Saturday, was supported by Chief Commissioner J.A. Cross, Deputy Chief Commissioner Armand Sylvestre and Commissioner G.A. Stone and F.M. MacPherson.

Ruling in favor of the railways were Assistant Chief Commissioner Hugh Wardrope and Commissioner J.A. Stoneman.